

## WEA

4. Causing weariness; tirefome.  
Their gates to all were open evermore  
That by the *weary* way were travelling,  
And one fat waiting ever them before  
To call in comers by that needy were and poor. *Fa. Queen.*  
The *weariest* and most loathed life  
That age, ach, penury, imprisonment,  
Can lay on nature, is a paradise  
To what we fear of death. *Shakespeare.*  
Put on what *weary* negligence you please,  
You and your fellows; I'd have it come to question. *Shak.*  
**WEASEL.** *n. f.* [perel, Saxon; *wesol*, Dutch; *mysfel*, Latin.]  
A small animal that eats corn and kills mice.  
Ready in gybes, quick-answer'd, faucy, and  
As quarrelsome as the *weasel*. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*  
A *weasel* once made shift to sink  
In at a corn loft through a chink. *Pope.*  
**WE'AND.** *n. f.* [pajen, Saxon.] This word is very variously  
written; but this orthography is nearest to the original word.  
The windpipe; the passage through which the breath is drawn  
and emitted.  
Marry Diggon, what should him affray,  
To take his own where-ever it lay;  
For had his *wealand* been a little wider,  
He would have devoured both hider and shidder. *Spenser.*  
Cut his *wealand* with thy knife. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*  
Matter to be discharged by expectoration must first pass in-  
to the lungs, then into the aspera arteria, or *wealand*, and  
from thence be coughed up and spit out by the mouth. *Wifem.*  
The shaft that slightly was impress'd,  
Now from his heavy fall with weight increas'd,  
Drove through his neck afant; he spurns the ground,  
And the foul issues through the *wealand*'s wound. *Dryden.*  
The unerring steel descend'd while he spoke,  
Pierc'd his wide mouth, and through his *wealand* broke. *Dryden.*  
**WEATHER.** *n. f.* [peben, Saxon.]  
1. State of air, respecting either cold or heat, wet or driness.  
Who's there, besides foul *weather*?—One mended like the  
*weather*, most unquietly. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*  
I am far better born than is the king;  
But I must make fair *weather* yet a while,  
Till Henry be more weak and I more strong. *Shakespeare.*  
Men must content themselves to travel in all *weathers*, and  
through all difficulties. *L'Estrange.*  
The sun  
Foretells the change of *weather* in the skies,  
Through mists he shoots his fullen beams,  
Suspect a drizzling day. *Dryden.*  
2. The change of the state of the air.  
It is a reverend thing to see an ancient castle not in decay;  
how much more to behold an ancient family, which have stood  
against the waves and *weathers* of time? *Bacon.*  
3. Tempest; storm.  
What gusts of *weather* from that gathering cloud,  
My thoughts preface. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
To **WEATHER.** *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To expose to the air.  
He perch'd on some branch thereby,  
To *weather* him and his moist wings to dry. *Spenser.*  
Mustard-seed gather for being too ripe,  
And *weather* it wel, yer ye give it a stripe. *Tusser.*  
2. To pass with difficulty.  
He *weather'd* fell Charibdis; but ere long,  
The skies were darkened, and the tempests strong. *Garth.*  
Could they *weather* and stand the shock of an eternal dura-  
tion, and yet be at any time subject to a dissolution. *Hale.*  
3. To **WEATHER** a point. To gain a point against the wind;  
to accomplish against opposition.  
We have been tugging a great while against the stream, and  
have almost *weather'd* our point; a stretch or two more will  
do the work. *Addison.*  
4. To **WEATHER** out. To endure.  
When we have pass'd these gloomy hours,  
And *weather'd* out the storm that beats upon us. *Addison.*  
**WEATHERBEATEN.** *adj.* Harassed and seasoned by hard *wea-*  
ther.  
They perceived an aged man and a young, both poorly ar-  
rayed, extremely *weatherbeaten*; the old man blind, the young  
man leading him. *Sidney.*  
She enjoys sure peace for evermore,  
As *weatherbeaten* ship arrived on happy shore. *Fairy Queen.*  
Thrice from the banks of Wye,  
And sandy bottom'd Severn, have I sent  
Him bootless home, and *weatherbeaten* back. *Shak. H. IV.*  
I hope when you know the world, you will at once leap  
into the river, and swim through handomely, and not *wea-*  
*therbeaten* with the divers blasts of irresolution, stand shivering  
upon the brink. *Suckling.*  
A *weatherbeaten* vessel holds  
Gladly the port. *Milton.*

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- Dido received his *weatherbeaten* troops. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
The old *weatherbeaten* soldier carries in his hand the Roman  
eagle. *Addison.*  
**WEATHERBOARD,** or *Weatherbow.* *n. f.* In the sea language,  
that side of a ship that is to the windward. *Diet.*  
**WEATHERCOCK.** *n. f.* [*weather* and *cock*.]  
1. An artificial cock set on the top of a spire, which by turn-  
ing shows the point from which the wind blows.  
But alas! the sun keeps his light, though thy faith be dark-  
ened; the rocks stand still, though thou change like a *weather-*  
*cock*. *Sidney.*  
A kingfisher hanged by the bill, converting the breast to  
that point of the horizon from whence the wind doth blow,  
is a very strange introducing of natural *weathercocks*. *Brown.*  
2. Any thing fickle and inconstant.  
Where had you this pretty *weathercock*?—I cannot tell  
what his name is my husband had him of. *Shakespeare.*  
He break my promise and abolve my vow!  
The word which I have given shall stand like fate,  
Not like the king's that *weathercock* of state. *Dryden.*  
**WEATHERDRIVEN.** *part.* Forced by storms or contrary winds.  
Philip, during his voyage towards Spain, was *weather-*  
*driven* into Weymouth. *Carver's Survey of Cornwall.*  
**WEATHERGAGE.** *n. f.* [*weather* and *gag*.] Any thing that  
shews the *weather*.  
To vere and tack, and steer a cause,  
Against the *weathergag* of laws. *Hudibras.*  
**WEATHERGLASS.** *n. f.* [*weather* and *glass*.] A barometer.  
As in some *weatherglass* my love I hold,  
Which falls or rises with the heat or cold,  
I will be constant yet. *Dryden.*  
John's temper depended very much upon the air; his spi-  
rits rose and fell with the *weatherglass*. *Arbutnot.*  
We shall hardly wish for a perpetual equinox to have the  
charges of *weatherglasses*; for the two equinoxes of our year  
are the most windy and tempestuous. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
**WEATHERGAGE.** *n. f.* [*weather* and *gag*.] A star-gazer; an  
astrologer; one that foretells the *weather*.  
And sooner may a gulling *weathergag*,  
By drawing forth heav'n's scheme tell certainly,  
What fashion'd hats or ruffs, or suits next year,  
Our giddy-headed antick youth will wear. *Dennis.*  
**WEATHERWISE.** *adj.* [*weather* and *wise*.] Skillful in foretel-  
ling the *weather*.  
**WEATHERWISER.** *n. f.* [*weather* and *wise*, Dutch; to show.]  
Any thing that foretells the *weather*.  
Most vegetables expand their flowers and down in warm  
sun shiny *weather*, and again close them toward the evening,  
or in rain, as is in the flowers of pimpernel, the opening  
and shutting of which are the countryman's *weatherwisser*.  
*Derham's Physico-Theology.*  
To **WEAVE.** *v. a.* Preterite *wove*, *woven*, *part. pass. woven*,  
*woven*; [pagan, Saxon; *woven*, Dutch.]  
1. To form by texture; to form by inserting one part of the  
materials within another.  
Here in her hairs  
The painter plays the spider, and hath *woven*  
A golden mesh to intrap the hearts of men,  
Faster than gnats in cobwebs. *Shakespeare.*  
The women *wove* hangings for the grove. *2 Kings xxiii. 7.*  
White seem'd her robes, yet *woven* so they were,  
As snow and gold together had been wrought. *Dryden.*  
These purple vests were *woven* by Dardan dames. *Dryden.*  
Dan Pope for thy misfortune griev'd,  
With kind concern and skill has *woven* d  
A silken web; and ne'er shall fade  
Its colours; gently has he laid  
The mantle o'er thy sad distress:  
And Venus shall the texture bles. *Prior.*  
2. To unite by intermixture.  
When religion was *woven* into the civil government, and  
flourished under the protection of the emperors, mens thoughts  
and discourses were full of secular affairs; but in the three first  
centuries of christianity, men who embraced this religion  
had given up all their interests in this world, and lived in a  
perpetual preparation for the next. *Addison.*  
3. To interpose; to insert.  
The duke be here to-night! the better! best!  
This *woven* itself perforce into my business. *Shakespeare.*  
To **WEAVE.** *v. n.* To work with a loom.  
**WEAVER.** *n. f.* [from *wave*.] One who makes threads into  
cloth.  
Upon these taxations,  
The clothiers all not able to maintain,  
The many to them longing, have put off  
The spinners, carders, fullers, *weavers*. *Shak. Hen. VIII.*  
My days are swifter than a *weaver's* shuttle, and are spent  
without hope. *Joh. vii. 6.*  
The

## WED

- The *wearer* may cast religion upon what loom he please. *How.*  
Her flag aloft spreads rustling to the wind,  
And sanguine streamers seem the flood to fire:  
The *wearer* charm'd with what his loom design'd,  
Goes on to see, and knows not to retire. *Dryden.*  
**WEAVERFISH.** *n. f.* [*araneus piscis*, Latin.] A fish. *Addison.*  
**WEB.** *n. f.* [pebba, Saxon.]  
1. Texture; any thing woven.  
Penelope, for her Ulysses' sake,  
Devis'd a *web* her woovers to deceive;  
In which the work that she all day did make,  
The fame at night she did again unweave. *Spenser.*  
Spiders touch'd, seek their *web's* inmost part. *Davies.*  
By day the *web* and loom,  
And homely household task shall be her doom. *Dryden.*  
The fates, when they this happy *web* have spun,  
Shall bles the sacred clue and bid it smoothly run. *Dryden.*  
A silken *web*; and ne'er shall fade  
Its colours. *Prior.*  
2. Some part of a sword. Obsolete.  
The sword, whereof the *web* was steel;  
Pommel, rich stone; hilt, gold, approv'd by touch. *Fairf.*  
3. A kind of dusky film that hinders the sight; suffusion.  
This is the foul fibertigibbet; he gives the *web* and the pin,  
quints the eye, and makes the hairlip. *Shakespeare.*  
**WEBBED.** *adj.* [from *web*.] Joined by a film.  
Such as are whole-footed, or whose toes are *webbed* toge-  
ther, their legs are generally short, the most convenient size  
for swimming. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*  
**WEBFOOTED.** *adj.* [*web* and *foot*.] Palmipedous; having films  
between the toes.  
*Webfooted* fowls do not live constantly upon the land, nor  
far to enter the water. *Ray on the Creation.*  
**WEBSTER.** *n. f.* [pebyne, Saxon; a woman-weaver.] A  
weaver. Obsolete.  
After local names, the most in number have been derived  
from occupations; as Taylor, *Webster*, Wheeler. *Camden.*  
To **WED.** *v. a.* [pagan, Saxon.]  
1. To marry; to take for husband or wife.  
If one by one you *wedded* all the world,  
Or, from the all that are, took something good  
To make a perfect woman; she you kill'd  
Would be unparallel'd. *Shakespeare.*  
Never did thy beauty, since the day  
I saw thee first, and *wedded* thee, adorn'd  
With all perfection, so inflame my senses.  
Cleo, blind to wit and worth,  
Weds the rich dullness of some son of earth. *Pope.*  
2. To join in marriage.  
In Syracuse was I born, and *wed*  
Unto a woman happy but for me. *Shakespeare.*  
Then I shall be no more;  
And Adam, *wedded* to another Eve,  
Shall live with her. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
The woman in us still prosecutes a deceit like that begun  
in the garden; and our understandings are *wedded* to an Eve,  
as fatal as the mother of their miseries. *Glanville.*  
3. To unite for ever.  
Affliction is enamour'd of thy parts,  
And thou art *wedded* to calamity. *Shakespeare's Rom. and Jul.*  
4. To take for ever.  
Though the principal men of the house of commons were  
again elected to serve in this parliament, yet they were far  
from *wedding* the war, or taking themselves to be concerned  
to make good any declaration made by the former. *Clarendon.*  
They positively and concernedly *wedded* his cause. *Clarendon.*  
5. To unite by love or fondness.  
Men are *wedded* to their lusts, and resolved upon a wicked  
course; and so it becomes their interest to wish there were no  
God. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
To **WED.** *v. n.* To contract matrimony.  
When I shall *wed*,  
That lord whose hand shall take my plight, shall carry  
Half my love with him, half my care and duty. *Shakespeare.*  
To love, to *wed*,  
For Hymen's rites, and for the marriage bed  
You were ordain'd. *Suckling.*  
Nor took I Guiscard, by blind fancy led,  
Or hasty choice as many women *wed*;  
But with deliberate care. *Dryden.*  
**WEDDING.** *n. f.* [from *wed*.] Marriage; nuptials; the nup-  
tial ceremony.  
Come, away!  
For you shall hence upon your wedding-day. *Shakespeare.*  
I will dance and eat plums at your wedding. *Shakespeare.*  
Let her beauty be her wedding dower;  
For me my possessions the effemins not. *Shakespeare.*  
When my son was entered into his wedding-chamber, he  
fell down and died. *2 Esdr. x. 1.*  
These three country bills agree, that each wedding produ-  
ces four children. *Graunt's Bills of Mortality.*

## WEE

- His friends were invited to come and make merry with him;  
and this was to be the wedding-feast. *L'Estrange.*  
If she affirmed herself to be a virgin, she must on her wed-  
ding-day, and in her wedding cloaths perform the ceremony  
of going alone into the den, and stay an hour with the lion. *Swift.*  
A woman seldom asks advice before she has bought her wed-  
ding-cloaths. *Spectator.*  
**WEDGE.** *n. f.* [wegge, Danish; *wegge*, Dutch.]  
1. A body, which having a sharp edge, continually growing  
thicker, is used to cleave timber; one of the mechanical powers.  
A barbarous troop of clownish fone,  
The honour of these noble bows down threw;  
Under the *wedge* I heard the trunk to groan. *Spenser.*  
The fifth mechanical faculty is the *wedge* used in the cleav-  
ing of wood. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*  
He left his *wedge* within the cloven oak  
To whet their courage. *Dryden's Æneid.*  
The oak let many a heavy groan, when he was cleft with a  
*wedge* of his own timber. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull.*  
2. A mass of metal.  
As sparks from the anvil used to fly,  
When heavy hammers on the *wedge* are swaid. *Fa. Qu.*  
When I saw a goodly Babylonish garment, and a *wedge* of  
gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them. *Joh. vii.*  
3. Any thing in the form of a wedge.  
In warlike multers they appear,  
In rhombs and *wedges* and half-moons and wings. *Milton.*  
To **WEDGE.** *v. a.* [from the noun.] To fasten with wedges;  
to straiten with wedges; to cleave with wedges; to stop; to  
obstruct.  
My heart,  
As *wedged* with a sigh would rive in twain,  
Left Hector, or my father, should perceive me. *Shakespeare.*  
Where have you been broiling?  
—Among the crowd i' the abbey, where a finger  
Could not be *wedged* in more. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*  
Your wit will not so soon out as another man's will; it is  
strongly *wedged* up in a blockhead. *Shakespeare.*  
Part  
In common, rang'd in figure *wedge* their way;  
Intelligent of seasons. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
Sergeffus in the centaur, soon he pals'd,  
*Wedge* d in the rocky shoals and sticking fast. *Dryden.*  
*Wedge* on the keenest scythes,  
And give us steeds that snort against the foe. *A. Phillips.*  
What impulse can be propagated from one particle, entomb'd  
and *wedged* in the very center of the earth, to another in the  
center of Saturn. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
**WEDLOCK.** *n. f.* [peb and lac, Sax. marriage and gift.] Mar-  
riage; matrimony.  
She doth stray about  
By holy crosses, where she kneels and prays  
For happy *wedlock* hours. *Shakespeare.*  
Sirrah, your brother is legitimate;  
Your father's wife did after *wedlock* bear him:  
And if she did play false, the fault was her's. *Shakespeare.*  
Can *wedlock* know so great a curse,  
As putting husbands out to nurse. *Cleaveland.*  
He his happiest choice too late,  
Shall meet already link'd, and *wedlock*-bound  
To a fell adversary. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
May not a prison or a grave,  
Like *wedlock*, honour's title have? *Denham.*  
One thought the sex's prime felicity  
Was from the bonds of *wedlock* to be free:  
And uncontrol'd to give account to none. *Dryden.*  
A man determin'd about the fiftieth year of his age to en-  
ter upon *wedlock*. *Addison.*  
**WEDNESDAY.** *n. f.* [pobenydag, Saxon; *adensday*, Swedish;  
*wensday*, Dutch; *wensday*, Islandick.] The fourth day of  
the week, so named by the Gothick nations from *Woden* or  
*Odin*.  
Where is the honour of him that died on *wednesday*. *Shak.*  
**WEE.** *adj.* [A Saxon word of the same root with *wearing*, Dutch;  
*wenig*, German.] Little; small: whence the word *weasel* or  
*weasel* is used for little; as a *weasel* face. In Scotland it de-  
notes small or little; as *wee* ane, a little one, or child; a *wee*  
bit, a little bit.  
Does he not wear a great round beard, like a glover's pa-  
ring knife?—No, forsooth; he hath but a little *wee* face with  
a little yellow beard. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
**WEECHELM.** *n. f.* [This is often written *witch elm*.] A spec-  
ies of elm.  
A cion of a *weechelm* grafted upon an ordinary elm, will put  
forth leaves as broad as the brim of a hat. *Bacon.*  
**WEED.** *n. f.* [peob, Saxon, tares.]  
1. An herb noxious or useless.  
If he had an immoderate ambition; which is a *weed*, if it be  
a *weed*, apt to grow in the best soils, it doth not appear that  
it was in his nature. *Clarendon.*  
He